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where it was found. In numerous cases the letters or other documents are followed by careful, scientific, explanatory notes. For example, on pages 373-375 is found an illuminating note respecting Bolívar's family. Unfortunately, the sources of the information which the editor incorporates in his notes are not always mentioned.

WILLIAM SPENCE ROBERTSON.

MINOR NOTICES

Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1916. Volume I. (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1919, pp. 507). Any one who wishes to see how much the American Historical Association has developed in the last twenty-five years would do well to compare this volume with the *Annual Reports* of the early nineties. Those volumes contained much excellent matter, but they were almost wholly composed of papers read at the meetings, for the society's activities were practically confined to those annual sessions. Now its activities are multifold, and never has there been a more impressive exhibition of them than in this volume. Nearly 300 of its 500 pages are occupied with their products—reports of the thirty-second annual meeting, held at Cincinnati, of the executive council, secretaries, treasurer, and various committees, of the thirteenth annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch, of the conference of historical societies, of the conference of hereditary patriotic societies, of the committee on a centre for higher historical and other studies in Washington, and of the conference which founded the *Hispanic American Historical Review*. The report of the Public Archives Commission carries with it an impressive statement of the condition of the public records of New Jersey, by a committee of New Jersey citizens, showing the appalling extent to which in that state (and similar investigations would show similar conditions in many another state) negligence and fires and pilferings and illegal detentions have deprived the commonwealth of historical materials which were once in its archives but now are not. In another interesting appendix to the same report, Professor Charles E. Chapman describes summarily the archives of Buenos Aires, Santiago de Chile, and Lima. The report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission, consisting of the extant correspondence of R. M. T. Hunter, is reserved for the second volume of the report. The substantive historical papers derived from the meeting and here printed are eleven in number. Mr. Herbert Wing discusses the assessments of tribute in the Athenian Empire; Professor Paul van den Ven, of Louvain and Princeton, the question, When did the Byzantine Empire and Civilization come into Being; Professor K. Asakawa, the life of a monastic *shō* in medieval Japan; Professor Chalfant Robinson, "History and Pathology" (specifically the case of Louis XI.). Professor A. H. Lybyer gives a graphic and informing account of Constantinople as capital of the Ottoman Empire. Professors Wallace Notestein and Roland G. Usher set forth some of the chief unsolved

problems of the Stuart period and the methods by which they should be approached. Professor Guernsey Jones describes the beginnings of the Anglo-Portuguese alliance, 1640-1661; Professor Edward T. Williams, then of the Department of State, those Chinese social institutions which could serve as foundations for republican government; Mr. Charles L. Chandler, the career of Admiral Charles Whiting Wooster in Chile. The presidential address of Professor Joseph Schafer of Oregon, as president of the Pacific Coast Branch, a lucid and thoughtful paper of great merit, and an account of the history of American historical periodicals, by Mr. A. H. Shearer, conclude the volume.

The Master of the Offices in the Later Roman and Byzantine Empires. By Arthur E. R. Boak. [University of Michigan Studies, Humanistic series, vol. XIV.] (New York, Macmillan Company, 1919, pp. x, 160, \$1.00.) This monograph aims "to treat the entire history of the Mastership", tracing "the stages of its development and its decline, showing the connection between these changes and the general tendencies which affected the administration as a whole". In carrying out this plan, Dr. Boak enumerates the different classes of *magistri*, discusses the history of the mastership, the competence, titles, honors and privileges of the master of the offices. The work is well done. Appendix A consists of seventeen pages of references to the title of *magister* in inscriptions and literature. These are arranged in a classified list, which makes it easy to use them. Appendix B gives a list of the masters of the offices. Finally, there is an index which is evidently not intended to be complete.

For the convenience of scholars who will use this work, a few corrections may be noted. The statement (p. 88) that there were sixteen state arsenals in the Orient "of which four were in the diocese of the Orient" is incorrect. There were in all fifteen, of which five were in the diocese of the Orient (see *Notitia Dignitatum*; reference correctly given by Boak). Bury, *History of the Eastern Roman Empire*, is not included in the bibliography. If Dr. Boak had used this (it actually contains very little on the master of the offices), he would probably have changed his statement as to the date when the mastership became an honorary office, as Bury (p. 108) states that the Emperor Michael offered to confer the rank of *magister* on two brigand chiefs if they would submit. There are slips in proof-reading, e. g., *dictionnaire* (p. 42), Rombaud (pp. 57, 160), *Geschichte der Romischen Postwesens* (p. 80), 92 for 97 (p. 99, note 4). The discussion on pages 90-91 is mainly a repetition of the discussion on pages 41-42; incidentally, in the repetition (p. 91, note 2) Dr. Boak gives the reference correctly as chapter 38, which (p. 42, note 2) he had given as chapter 37. The last paragraph on page 69 makes statements which are evidently contradictory. Finally, why is there no reference in the list of masters to the well-known chronicler, "Simeon, magister and logothete"?

D. C. MUNRO.

The History of Normandy and of England. By Sir Francis Palgrave, K. H. Edited by Sir R. H. Inglis Palgrave, F.R.S. Volumes I. and II. (Cambridge, University Press, 1919, pp. lvi, xxxvi, 560; xxxix, 588.) This is the first installment of a ten-volume edition of *The Collected Works of Sir Francis Palgrave*. First issued in 1851-1857, the *Normandy and England* was the first serious attempt to give the Norman period of English history its larger setting by placing Normandy on the same plane as Wessex and "adopting Rollo equally with Cerdic". Certainly an entire volume on the Frankish empire of the ninth century, and another on the tenth, constitute a generous introduction to Anglo-Norman history. Unfortunately they give the impression that we know a great deal respecting a particularly obscure epoch. The author's wide-ranging and discursive mind lent itself easily to a form of historiography which padded out the chroniclers with comparisons and allusions to the whole course of human history. Palgrave made a serious attempt to cover the narrative sources of his subject, but without thoroughgoing or searching criticism. Thus he relies steadily on the rhetorical compilation of Dudo of Saint Quentin, to which he ascribes both originality and "general accuracy", and, what is worse, he has a way of preferring the twelfth-century translations of Dudo as more picturesque. As a matter of fact, Dudo is not a contemporary authority; he shows no evidence of "diligent inquiry"; and he preserves singularly little of popular tradition. Curiously, in spite of his great familiarity with the English public records, Palgrave makes no effort to utilize the documentary sources for Frankish history, and his critical acumen suffers painfully by comparison with the *Annales* and *Jahrbücher* upon which the student of to-day has come to rely. These defects go too deep to be remedied by a new edition, nor is the editor the one to remedy them. In spite of occasional citation of recent books, his notes are devoted chiefly to the translation of quotations from Latin and French and to the explanation of references and allusions with the aid of the *Britannica* and other obvious helps. If Palgrave's works are thought to deserve perpetuation as classics, which they are not, Bury's edition of the *Decline and Fall* would afford a better model of annotation. The freshest part of the volume is the prefatory memoir, with its numerous quotations from the letters of Sir Francis.

C. H. HASKINS.

The Coucher Book of Furness Abbey. Printed from the Original Manuscript in the British Museum. Edited by John Brownbill. Volume II., pt. III. [Remains Historical and Literary connected with the Palatine Counties of Lancaster and Chester, vol. LXXVIII., new series.] (Manchester, Chetham Society, 1919, pp. xxix, [295].) The contents of this volume are more varied in character than were the preceding installments of the Coucher Book. After the abbey rental with which it opens, come twenty-five pages of court rolls, some of the entries in which fur-

nish interesting sidelights on rural conditions in the early sixteenth century. Tenants are presented for keeping unringed swine; for selling bark and trees outside the lordship; and for driving their neighbors' sheep from the common pasture. A dog characterized as a "shepe-woryer" is to be hanged; a tenant is ordered to remove his "unreasonable" mare from the common pasture; the possession and use of cards and dice is forbidden; while at the chapel of Colton no one shall have new ales, "nutterakes", "upsyttynges", or pots of ale on Saturdays or Sundays without special license.

The letters and petitions include regulations made in a chapter of the order in 1407 and an inquest on the death of Abbot Lawrence. Three monks conspired to murder him. They mixed poison with his ablutions at mass and afterwards gave him poisoned food.

The nine grants headed Manumissions and Transfers of Bondmen include transfers only; but as the editor points out, these may be round-about methods of manumission.

Evidence on the known right of the abbots of Furness to appoint a bishop to the Isle of Man is given in the Manx Documents (pp. 707-715), without, however, throwing new light on that obscure problem. A group of Irish charters relates with one exception to possessions of the abbey in and near Drogheda, and contains little of moment. These are followed by eighty pages of notes and additions to volume I., to meet the chief complaint against the late Canon Atkinson's editing.

The index of persons and places has proved accurate where I have tested it. If anything it is too complete: *e. g.*, Tunstal, Marmaduke, and Tunstal, Sir Marmaduke, are the same person.

ALFRED H. SWEET.

The Immunity of Private Property from Capture at Sea. By Harold Scott Quigley. [Bulletin of the University of Wisconsin, no. 918. Economics and Political Science series, vol. IX., no. 2.] (Madison, the University, 1918, pp. 200, 25 cents.) Whether immunity of private property from capture at sea is destined to be relegated to the limbo of lost causes or not, the problem of re-shaping the law of the sea cannot be satisfactorily solved without the aid of careful investigations into the history of the struggle to shield commerce in time of war. The movement for immunity has always been bound up with the question of neutral rights, and as Dr. Quigley points out, has too frequently been confused with it. Neither can be understood without a careful retracing of the history of the law of capture. This task he has performed with scholarly thoroughness. Perhaps the most useful part of his dissertation is his summary of the opinions of publicists of different countries on the theory of immunity. The chapter on the treatment of private property at sea during the war just ended comes down to the summer of 1915, and is a markedly detached and unprejudiced examination of the methods for the control of commerce practised by the belligerent govern-

ments. He aligns himself with the school which believes the Declaration of Paris went too far ahead of the opinion of the times, and warns against any attempts at reform which fail to take account of the strength of the belief in the military importance of the destruction of enemy commerce.

LOUISE FARGO BROWN.

Characters from the Histories and Memoirs of the Seventeenth Century, with an Essay on the Character, and Historical Notes. By David Nichol Smith. (London and New York, Oxford University Press, 1918, pp. lii, 331, \$2.70.) Mr. Smith has an excellent idea, which, though not new, has produced an interesting book. The selection of a large group of "characters" from seventeenth-century English writings, preceded by an entertaining and informing essay on this species of literary expression, and supplemented by full and illuminating notes, all these witness the industry and knowledge of the compiler and contribute to the pleasure of the reader. No one can read such a collection without renewed interest in this most human and intimate of English centuries. Like those editors who have of late culled for us the choicer flowers of Raleigh and Clarendon, Mr. Smith has laid us under a debt of gratitude for what he has done. It seems the more ungrateful, therefore, to find fault with a volume which cannot fail to provide so much pleasure and profit for any one into whose hands it may come; yet we cannot but regret one obvious limitation. There is somewhat too much of Clarendon, who is honored with nearly as many selections as all other writers together. We could well spare some of these, good as they are, for a wider selection. Ludlow's evaluation of Cromwell, more of North and Aubrey, some of Evelyn and Pepys, and, above all perhaps, some of Sir William Monson's penetrating sketches, would have added variety and spice. Marvell's lines on Charles II., to take one instance of many, would have lightened a page; and there lie buried in the Historical Manuscript Commission *Reports* many lesser examples of an admirable art which might have lent sparkle to the greater jewels set here, if only by contrast of greater informality. Yet when so much is good, it ill becomes us to criticize too closely. There is not anywhere else in English so good an essay on the "character" as this; and though one might insist somewhat more than its accomplished author on the distinction between externals and intellectual or spiritual qualities, and their elucidation as exemplified in Clarendon and Burnet, he has said much on an interesting theme and said it well.

W. C. A.

Le Cardinal Collier: Lettres et Prophéties de Marie-Thérèse; l'Embûche Autrichienne. Par J. Munier-Jolain. (Paris, Payot et Cie., 1918, pp. 238, 4.50 fr.) In this little volume M. Munier-Jolain endeavors to broaden the setting in which the life of Cardinal de Rohan has been

placed by tradition and by the judgment of previous historians. He regards the Diamond Necklace affair as a mere incident in Rohan's life, and a minor incident but for its tragic consequences to Marie Antoinette. According to the author's view, Rohan is something more than a great noble of low character and inconceivable frivolity; he is a man of unusual mental gifts and far-reaching ambition. He does not deny the fact of Rohan's immoralities; on the contrary he adds new details. But he quotes testimony to Rohan's intellectual interests, his artistic tastes, his extraordinary alertness of mind. He also finds it hard to believe that even in an age of privilege and favor a fool should have been made honorary member of the French Academy, provisor of the Sorbonne, and grand almoner of France, to say nothing of the fact that he had been French ambassador at Vienna for two years and a half. He believes Rohan's goal was no less a position than that of chief minister of the king. Marie Antoinette stood in his way. She tried to prevent his being made grand almoner, but failed because of a promise the king had made to the cardinal's cousin, the Comtesse de Marsan. In his duel with the queen, Rohan lent himself to the libellers who were busy with her reputation. This conflict, which is supposed to furnish the larger setting to the cardinal's life, goes back in the author's opinion to the period of the embassy and to Rohan's discovery that Austria was to be faithless to the obligations of the French alliance by having a share in the first partition of Poland. Although Maria Theresa acknowledged that this was acting "à la Prussienne", M. Munier-Jolain thinks she conceived an intense enmity for Rohan because he warned Louis XV. what was impending. But if her enmity had this origin, is it not strange that the Emperor Joseph and the minister Kaunitz remained on intimate terms with Rohan, for they, more than she, were responsible for the Austrian policy concerning Poland? Interesting as the author's account of the "Cardinal Collier" is, his argument is not convincing. Rohan's conduct was so habitually crooked, and his wickedness so vulgar, that it is impossible to believe him a man of superior powers.

H. E. B.

Un Impôt sur le Revenu sous la Révolution: Histoire de la "Contribution Patriotique" dans le Bas-Languedoc (Département de l'Hérault), 1789-1795, d'après des Documents Inédits. Par Pierre-Edm. Hugues. Préface de M. Paul Delombre. (Paris, Édouard Champion, 1919, pp. lxxvii, 330, 9.50 fr.) The "Contribution Patriotique" has hitherto interested students of the French Revolution chiefly because its proposal offered Mirabeau an opportunity to discredit Necker. Its success was doubtful, but money must be had, and there was little time for discussion. Mirabeau, accordingly, urged that the National Assembly accept "de confiance" the minister's project of an extraordinary income-tax. If it failed Necker would be responsible and his popularity would receive a deadly blow. But the tax has a more interesting side as a feature of

Revolutionary financiering and as an incident in the history of income-taxes. With our own success of recent memory in raising huge sums by taking high percentages of large incomes, it is curious to follow the fate of a tax which took in three annual installments 25 per cent. of each income over 400 livres. This meant only $8\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. a year. Neither Necker nor the Assembly dared in the beginning to inaugurate effective means of controlling the returns. They relied, or pretended to rely, on the patriotism of each citizen to impel him to make a true declaration of the amount due. If he wished to conceal his exact income he could subscribe more than 25 per cent. and declare that his subscription exceeded the required sum. M. Hugues describes in minute detail the experience with the tax in the department of L'Hérault, formerly Bas-Languedoc. He shows that the tax was eventually collected, although the returns were not all in before the close of the Convention. The later installments were paid in depreciated assignats. One of the first obstacles was the change in the system of local government, but the permanent and serious obstacle was the inertia of the rural communes and of the "petit peuple" in general. They supposed the Revolution meant deliverance from taxation, not new taxes. Before many months were gone, the Assembly was obliged to introduce coercion and to impose upon the local authorities the duty of fixing the sum to be paid by those who neglected to make declarations and of increasing amounts declared if these were obviously too small. The "Contribution Patriotique" did not save the country from Mirabeau's "hideous bankruptcy"; it did not even discredit Necker, for he disappeared long before its failure was evident. Its chief interest, in the opinion of the author, is in the illustrations it offers of the inherent difficulties of income-tax legislation. Altogether, this work is an important addition to our knowledge of the financial history of the Revolution.

H. E. BOURNE.

The Religious Policy of the Bavarian Government during the Napoleonic Period. By Chester Penn Higby, Instructor in History, West Virginia University. [Studies in History, Economics and Public Law, vol. LXXXV., no. 1, whole no. 196.] (New York, Columbia University Press, 1919, pp. 346, \$3.00.) This painstaking doctoral dissertation does not attempt to prove any novel thesis, but simply to answer in scholarly fashion three questions. What were the religious and political conditions in Bavaria at the death of the Elector Charles Theodore in 1799? What changes were wrought by his successor, Maximilian IV., from 1799 to 1815? To what extent were these changes permanent? In answer he finds that in 1799 the conglomerate of territories which made up the electorate was overrun with beggars, tramps, and criminals, in spite of the medieval barbarity and frequency of the penal executions. The Roman Catholic clergy were intolerant, superstitious, possessed of considerable lands, and all-powerful politically. Innumerable popular

superstitions prevailed, such as the ringing of church-bells to avert thunderstorms. But, nevertheless, conditions were not quite as gloomy and medieval as they have been commonly painted. From 1799 to 1815, under the beneficent Maximilian IV. and his enlightened minister, Montgelas, came sweeping reforms. Lutherans and Calvinists, though not Jews, were put on an equality with Catholics. Church lands, both of monasteries and cathedral chapters, were secularized. The Catholic hierarchy were subordinated to the control of the state. And the government attempted, though unsuccessfully, to stamp out many of the superstitious practices by edicts regulating the religious life of the people; the government was unwisely trying to accomplish by legislation a task which should have been left to education. After the downfall of Napoleon, and in spite of general reaction, most of the reform measures in Bavaria were permanently preserved, and many were embodied in the Concordat of 1817, which has survived for a century. The secularization policy, however, was reversed, and in the eighteen-twenties and thirties many of the confiscated lands were restored to the monks and nuns, so that in 1904 they numbered respectively 1985 and 12,586, as compared with 3281 and 1238 a century earlier in 1802. The war prevented the author from making any investigations in manuscript material in Bavaria, but we doubt if this results in any very serious loss; for he has made excellent use of all the topographical and descriptive works, the memoirs, and the laws of Bavaria available in the libraries of this country. What he does not explain, but what we should like to know, is what were the underlying causes of the reform movement. Was it the permeating effect of French eighteenth-century philosophy, or the striking example of the French Revolution, or the pressure of Napoleonic influence, or simply the chance fact that Maximilian IV. happened to be progressive and tolerant, while Charles Theodore had been the reverse? One gathers that it was the latter chance of fate, though a part of the reform legislation, especially after 1802, was due to Napoleonic influence.

S. B. F.

The Congress of Vienna, 1814-15. By C. K. Webster, Professor of Modern History in the University of Liverpool. (London, Humphrey Milford, for the Historical Section of the Foreign Office, 1919, pp. xii, 174, 4 sh. 6 d.) This is "one of a series of handbooks on countries and subjects likely to come under discussion during the peace negotiations", which have been edited under the general supervision of Dr. G. W. Prothero by the historical section of the British foreign office with the aid of expert scholars. Intended "for the information of officials and men of action rather than historians", it was written under pressure in eleven weeks during the summer of 1918; and the author modestly describes it as "purely a *pièce de circonstance*", and promises a larger work on the same subject after his release from governmental service. Nevertheless, it is a work of much merit, and until the appearance of a

definitive history of the Congress of Vienna historians will welcome it as the partial fulfillment of a long-felt need. The author has made extensive use of the heretofore somewhat neglected papers of the British foreign office, and it is evident that he has been a student of the problems about which he writes for a much longer period than was taken up with the actual preparation of this little volume. His point of view is frankly British. To many it will seem too exclusively British. He believes that England's diplomatic rôle in 1814-1815 has hitherto received less than its due share of attention; and accordingly he has set forth the course of British foreign policy under Castlereagh's direction in these critical years with considerable fullness. Of Castlereagh he holds that "it has been clearly proved that for courage and common sense he has rarely been equalled among British diplomatists, and that his influence over the settlement of 1814-1815 was greater than that of any other European statesman".

The Century of Hope: a Sketch of Western Progress from 1815 to the Great War. By F. S. Marvin. (Oxford, Clarendon Press; New York, Oxford University Press, 1919, pp. vii, 352, \$3.00.) Mr. Marvin has made a laudable attempt to sketch the intellectual history of Europe during the nineteenth century. This is a tribute to the new spirit of history which seeks for explanations, not merely in political mechanisms nor in economic determinism, but also in human ideals and emotions. The book lacks unity, perhaps because the subject does. The reader is frequently left floundering but happy, very much in the same mood as when he hears an engaging lecturer discourse for an hour on some world problem. There are chapters on democracy, literature, socialism, science (by far the best), nationalism, imperialism, education, religion, and social progress. The bibliography contains lists of good, bad, and indifferent books, but without any indication of their relative merits.

Bayern und Deutschland im 19. Jahrhundert. Von M. Doeberl. (Munich, K. B. Akademie der Wissenschaften, 1917, pp. 155.) The author of this brochure occupied himself for many years with the history of Bavaria in the nineteenth century, particularly in its relations to the politics of larger Germany. Numerous studies and articles from his hand have appeared from time to time dealing with special persons and policies, so that the theme is in a measure a rapid glance over the process by which Bavaria came into the German Empire, the actual essay being condensed into fifty pages.

Certain basic principles or motives have been at the foundation of Bavarian politics. The most fundamental has been the consciousness of a South-German distinctiveness, or national sentiment, based on a long dynastic history and not including a love for Prussians. Naturally royal families and royal statesmen were anxious to preserve their dignities and the position of the state to as great a degree as possible. Yet the

Bavarian kings of the last century were for the most part imbued with the sense of German unity. Both Ludwig I. and Ludwig II. surpassed their local statesmen in this respect. The balance of these two motives succeeded in obtaining for Bavaria a superior position, or at least the outward marks of greater independence, in the construction of the empire of 1870. To this well-known outline of facts the author contributes the story of the internal politics by which those ends were achieved.

Another fundamental theme lies in the close ties of sentiment and economic relationship between Bavaria and German Austria. These instincts led nearly to conflict with Prussia in 1866, and to attempts at various previous times to form a separate South-German federation. Writing in 1917, the author sees a wonderful realization of this natural unity in the combination of Germany and Austria against Europe. To those who now or in the future will have to settle the adjustment of nationalities these affinities may have great importance.

The article is fortified with more than a hundred pages of selected state papers taken from the archives and correspondence of Bavaria and other German states, and covering the period from 1814 to 1870.

J. M. VINCENT.

Catalogue of Materials in the Archivo General de Indias for the History of the Pacific Coast and the American Southwest. By Charles E. Chapman, Assistant Professor of History in the University of California. [University of California Publications in History, vol. VII.] (Berkeley, the University, 1919, pp. v, 755, \$5.50.) This volume is the result of the labors of Professor Chapman, while holding a "Native Sons fellowship" of the University of California, and is a credit to his scholarship. The work is compiled from an examination of 207 *legajos* selected from the Papeles de Estado and Audiencia (Guadalajara and Mexico) groups of the Archives of the Indies as most likely to contain materials for California history. About five per cent. of the documents of these *legajos* have entered into the calendar. Although the *Catalogue* does not give a complete list for the regions indicated, it serves to demonstrate the richness of the documentation of the Archives of the Indies for the history of California and the southwestern United States. The entries of the calendar cover the period from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries inclusive. For the earlier years, the materials include the southwestern United States in a larger sense, while in the later period they are limited more strictly to California and the approaches thereto.

An excellent introduction gives an account of the Archives of the Indies, a statement regarding the work of the Native Sons fellows, a summary of the work accomplished by the author, and an explanation of the system used in making the calendar. Part I. contains a summary description of the 207 selected *legajos*, described either singly or in

groups. Part II. forms the bulk of the volume and comprises a calendar of 6257 items, representing perhaps 20,000 separate documents. The content of the documents is usually indicated by the official summary taken from the document itself, which gives a satisfactory idea of its character. The calendar has already served in the preparation of the author's *Founding of Spanish California* and of Priestley's *José de Gálvez*. In addition the author declares that the calendar contains available data for fifty other works, relating to discovery, exploration, settlement, administration (civil, military, financial, and ecclesiastical), etc., of Spanish California and the southwestern United States.

Little criticism can be offered of Professor Chapman's book. The technical term "Calendar" instead of "Catalogue" in the title would fit the contents better. Placing the numbers of the documents before the entry instead of after it gives them undue prominence. A few slight errors have crept in but they are mostly obvious. The *Catalogue* is a worthy and useful addition to the series of publications of the University of California.

ROSCOE R. HILL.

Early Records of the City and County of Albany and Colony of Rensselaerwyck. Volumes III. and IV. Translated from the Original Dutch by Jonathan Pearson, late Professor of Natural Philosophy in Union College. Revised and Edited by A. J. F. van Laer, Archivist, Division of Archives and History. [New York State Library, History Bulletins, nos. 10, 11]. (Albany, University of the State of New York, 1918, 1919, pp. 644, 200). The present volumes, like the preceding two (see this journal, XXII. 444), consist of translations of Dutch records in the Albany county clerk's office. Volume III., *Notarial Papers, 1660-1669*, contains those of the Albany notaries, Dirck van Schelluyne, Adriaen Jansen van Ilpendam, and Jan Juriaensen Becker, who, under the practice of the period, had recording as well as attesting functions and whose registers contain the original documents executed before them. These consist of powers of attorney, contracts relating to both real and personal property, bonds, settlements of accounts and estates, assignments of debts and inheritances, agreements and certificates of apprenticeship, witnesses' depositions, wills, a few deeds and other miscellaneous papers; a number of van Ilpendam's letters are included. Volume IV. is divided into two parts. The first (pp. 7-115) under the general title Mortgages, 1658-1660, contains some fifteen mortgages, a number of deeds, contracts for the sale of real and personal property, bonds, powers of attorney, several depositions, the terms of sale at auction of various pieces of real property, of which there are many, and some miscellaneous papers. Part 2 (pp. 117-206) contains wills beginning July 5, 1681, but principally from October 8, 1691, to 1782; only those originally in Dutch are given, but subscribing witnesses' depositions and records of probate, which are in English, are included.

The very description of these papers indicates their large value for local social, economic, and administrative history; for genealogical and biographical purposes they furnish a vast fund of hitherto practically inaccessible information. Volume III. contains not only the greater bulk and variety of documents but its earlier portion has an added importance because the manuscript minutes of the local court at Albany for the period 1660-1668 are wanting.

The work is done with the customary and well-recognized care and thoroughness of the editor; the annotations are many and helpful; the translations show the benefit of his exceptional qualifications for the task.

S. G. NISSENSON.

James Madison's Notes of Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787 and their Relation to a More Perfect Society of Nations. By James Brown Scott, Technical Delegate of the United States to the Second Hague Peace Conference. (New York and London, Oxford University Press, 1918, pp. xviii, 149, \$2.00.) The scope of this monograph is defined by the latter part of its title. It is not a discussion of Madison's notes in full, but only of such portions of his record of the Convention's debates as may have direct application upon the constitution of a League of Nations. In brief, the author's point of view is that the Convention of 1787 was "in fact as well as in form an international conference". For this reason, he is "firmly convinced that the proceedings of the Convention are therefore of interest in this day of international conferences". Hence, should the Society of Nations decide to strengthen the bonds which unite them, these notes "should be mastered and the experience of the United States under the more perfect union be taken into consideration".

Following a brief but illuminating introduction, Dr. Scott reviews those portions of Madison's notes which deal with problems analogous to those presented by the international situation of to-day. Thus, he points out in detail how the "two sets of difficulties—namely, equality and local interests—seemingly insurmountable then, and still peculiarly significant to international conferences", were solved. The relation of justiciable to political questions, and the important and unique function the Supreme Court has filled in our country are emphasized. "It offers the nations a model and a hope of judicial settlement of their controversies" which otherwise "can only be settled by war".

Within the limits that Dr. Scott has set himself, his work has been admirably done. It was scarcely to be expected that anything new to the specialist in regard to the work of the Convention would be brought to light. It is rather in his application of the lessons which the successful experience of the union of the states presents to the nations of the world that the author has made his chief contribution.

It may be remarked, however, in conclusion that unfortunately the

covenant of the new League of Nations does not indicate that these lessons were drawn upon to any marked extent by the five great powers.

HERMAN V. AMES.

Life and Letters of Simeon Baldwin. By Simeon E. Baldwin. (New Haven, the Author, 1919, pp. ix, 503, \$3.50.) This book is a compilation from letters and journals, published "with the special view of introducing an ancestor to his remote descendants, and the general view of picturing the life and manners of a former generation". These modest aims have been amply fulfilled by the distinguished author, who allows his ancestor to reveal his own character and tell his own story. Simeon Baldwin (1761-1851) was the youngest of eight children of a farmer in Norwich, Connecticut. An education at Yale gave him the pass-key to the Connecticut hierarchy. For many years he was content to practise law in New Haven, and play Federalist politics from the inside. In 1803 he was sent to Congress, but two years' residence at Washington in that harvest season for democracy made him "more and more satisfied with the mediocrity of the Connecticut style of living" (p. 345). He refused a re-election, and accepted a seat on the supreme bench of his native commonwealth, where he would undoubtedly have passed the remainder of his long life but for the local political upheaval of 1818.

Simeon Baldwin was a fairly typical Connecticut Federalist, sharing every opinion and prejudice of his class. Occasional flashes of discernment are found in his letters. He criticizes the Federalists for their Johnsonian methods of argument and tactless sarcasm (p. 393); he wishes sectionalism to be called by its right name in 1813, and not disguised as Federalism (p. 459). Nothing new or startling, but much illustrative material, is contained in his correspondence. The first half of the book, covering Baldwin's undergraduate life and tutorship at Yale, is a good supplement to Ezra Stiles's diary of the same depressed period in the history of the college. After Shays's Rebellion, Baldwin's friend Dr. Backus is frankly monarchist (pp. 386-389). The letters of Elizur Goodrich and James Hillhouse are a contribution to the literature of ultra-Federalism. A confidential circular of a state Federalist committee in 1804 (p. 290) confirms the reviewer's opinion that the New England Federalists had a political machine which for silent effectiveness equalled anything manipulated by modern bosses. At Washington, Baldwin was not let into the secession plot of 1804, but his letters give entertaining accounts of the impeachment of Chase, the manners of John Randolph, and the dress of Betsy Bonaparte. The author has also wisely included material on the banking and canal enterprises in which his ancestor engaged, and has shown us how one could live comfortably in New Haven on an income less than \$1100 a year—before 1851.

S. E. MORISON.

Centennial History of Moses Brown School, 1819-1919. By Rayner Wickersham Kelsey, Associate Professor of History in Haverford College. With an Introduction by Rufus Matthew Jones, Professor of Philosophy in Haverford College. (Providence, Moses Brown School, 1919, pp. xviii, 178, \$2.00.) An attractive book, printed on good paper, illustrated with thirty-seven inserted pages of cuts, and worthy in every way of the dignified institution it describes.

A noteworthy feature of the book is the loving touch of the author. In his preface he speaks of his gratitude for the privilege of doing the work, and of the inspiration of communion through the channels of history with the ancient worthies who founded the school. That the devotion is sincere the volume sufficiently attests. Few schools are so fortunate in their interpreters.

The early chapters deal with colonial times and the beginnings of our school systems. The Quakers early advocated the founding of schools, and had in operation in England by 1671 at least fifteen boarding schools. The Friends' Public School in Philadelphia, now the William Penn Charter School, was founded in 1689. As early as 1684 the Rhode Island Friends granted the use of a meeting-house in Newport for a school, and promised what assistance they could give. A hundred years later the New England Friends established and maintained for four years in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, the predecessor of the present Moses Brown School. A copy of the rules and regulations of that school is given in an appendix, dated November 1, 1784, and reflects the intense seriousness of the times.

That the present school came into being was largely the work of the Moses Brown of historic fame, who continued as its treasurer until the year of his death, at the age of ninety-seven, in 1836.

Among the later workers for the prosperity of the school were the Smiley brothers, later of Lake Mohonk, from whose administration the financial success of the school seems to have dated. Albert K. Smiley was principal of the school from 1860 to 1879, and for much of the time his brother Alfred was associated with him.

The entire book is replete with humor and will prove of interest even to those who do not know the school. It forms a valuable contribution to the literature of the formation of our secondary schools.

As a minor matter, a Rhode Islander naturally takes exception to the author's use of the commonly accepted statement that this state in educational matters was more backward during the colonial period than other New England states. Dr. Carroll in his *Public Education in Rhode Island* (1918) has shown that this impression has doubtless grown from the fact that, although this state had the schools, it did not have the laws requiring the schools to be established. He even claims a reasonable probability that Newport was the first town in all English America to establish a public school.

JOHN L. ALGER.

James Baird Weaver. By Fred Emory Haynes. [Iowa Biographical series, edited by Benjamin F. Shambaugh.] (Iowa City, State Historical Society, 1919, pp. xv, 494, \$2.00.) The influence of James B. Weaver was in the field of agitation. He never held an important administrative post or served as a member of a controlling group of Congress. He was never tested and seasoned by political responsibility. Instead of these experiences, which might have made of him a real national figure, he lived the life of the prophet of marginal reforms. Less unpractical and dogmatic than many of his associates, he was not the less a persistent member of that group that Colonel Roosevelt characterized so aptly as the "fringe of lunatics".

The three decades after the Civil War were relatively barren of constructive political and social leadership, so far as the great parties were concerned. What programme of betterment there was, was offered only outside the party organizations. Much of the programme was lop-sided, and was condemned by contemporaries because of the greenback and silver panaceas that accompanied it. But it is true, as Dr. Haynes emphasizes more than once, that in the half-seen vision of the Greenback-Farmers' Alliance-Populist leaders were the suggestions of much that has to-day become orthodox and commonplace. Weaver could not see the intermediate steps, but he was strong on foreseeing goals and ideals—or guessing at them. Twice, as presidential candidate in 1880 and 1892, he was official spokesman for the discontented. The critique of Dr. Haynes makes little attempt to show how much of Weaver's foresight was rational and how much was mere accident.

Dr. Haynes's biography will be a useful addition to the literature of politics, but it contains relatively little that will be new to the intimate student. Weaver's manuscript remains were not important. His biography makes of necessity a sad contrast with such a work as Caro Lloyd's *Henry Demarest Lloyd*. Weaver "gave little thought to the past", and "he looked forward to the very end of his life". A single scrapbook and a letter-file contain all that he preserved for his biographer. With the scanty assistance of these, and with the *Congressional Record* and the Iowa newspapers, Dr. Haynes has done his best, and has traversed again much of the ground covered in his *Third Party Movements since the Civil War*. His foot-notes show that he has consulted the Weller Papers in the Wisconsin Historical Society, and the Donnelley Papers in the Minnesota Historical Society, both of which are rich collections for the Greenback and Populist movements. But he does not appear to have exhausted these papers, or to have enriched his text to the fullest from them.

The book is of course beautifully printed and carefully annotated.

FREDERIC L. PAXSON.

A Report on the Public Archives. By Theodore C. Blegen. [Wisconsin Historical Publications, Bulletin of Information, no. 94.] (Madi-

son, State Historical Society, 1918, pp. 115.) This well-considered and carefully-written pamphlet is one of the most encouraging signs of the times. It is a study, in the light of the best European and American practice and precept, of the problem of dealing with the public records of Wisconsin. It may occasion some surprise to learn that, in the matter of caring for its archives, Wisconsin is hardly abreast of Massachusetts and is considerably behind Iowa and Alabama, but such is the case. The State Historical Society, turning its attention to this state of affairs, commissioned Mr. Blegen to make a report on the general situation and to suggest a plan for the better organization and administration of the public records. Mr. Blegen first made a study of the archival practices of certain foreign countries, especially England and Canada, and of a few of the American states, such as Iowa, Mississippi, and Pennsylvania. The best practice he found to be based on three fundamental principles: "(1) the centralization of all archives not in current use; (2) an efficient and scientific classification and general administration of the records thus centralized; (3) the custody of the archives under officials thoroughly trained, both in theory and in practice, for their work". In the application of these principles to the situation in Wisconsin Mr. Blegen urges the erection of a special building to serve as an archive depot, and the organization of an archive administration under the State Historical Society, already the trustee of the state for all its historical interests. It is to be hoped that Mr. Blegen's recommendations will be adopted for they are clearly in accordance with the best archival practice and would meet the demands of administrative efficiency and historical scholarship.

WALDO G. LELAND.